

[13th November 1922]

to the change in the system of charging, the accounts are very complicated. The following is as nearly as can be ascertained the rent charge in respect of each Member or Minister on account of his telephone connexion in Ootacamund in 1922 :—

		RS.	A.	P.
The hon. the Finance Member	80	11	0
„ the Revenue Member	48	8	0
„ the Law Member	56	7	0
„ the Home Member	93	6	0
„ the Minister for Local Self-Government.	47	11	0
„ the Minister for Development	37	8	0
„ the Minister for Education	47	13	0

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ In my question I ask for ‘the amount expended in connexion with the installation of telephonic communication at the residences of the Members of the Executive Council and Ministers at Ootacamund’ but in the answer the charges for rent are given. I do not ask for the rent, but I ask for the amount expended in connexion with the installation of telephonic communication.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Is not ‘rent’ expenditure ? ”

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ No doubt ‘rent’ also includes expenditure, but I want to know the expenditure incurred in connexion with the installation of telephonic communication, that is, the expenditure incurred in laying the line from the main office to the Members’ houses.”

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—“ The line is laid by the Imperial department and we have nothing to do with the cost of it. The expenditure from Provincial funds is exactly what is shown in the reply to the question.”

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ Am I to understand that the Government did not spend any money in laying the lines ? ”

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—“ The hon. Member is perfectly correct in his assumption.”

District board engineers.

414 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether it is not a fact that there are a few district board engineers and assistant engineers who have already completed their 55th year and have obtained extension of service ?

A.—The Government have no definite information.

Women and children dispensary, Tiruppattur.

415 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is proposed to abolish the women and children dispensary at Tiruppattur town, North Arcot district, from the 1st of October 1922, owing to financial stringency ;